Vol.



No. 5.





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1906.

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American

Journal of Philately.

A Monthly Journal devoted to the interests of Stamp Collectors.

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GEORGE L. TOPPAN, Editor.

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MAY 1906.

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Some Stamp Designs.

By C. A. Howes.

[Continued from page 44.]

Since the papers treating of the Native Indian stamps have appeared, inquiry has been made about some of the envelope stamps of the same class. Most of these show no special features in their designs, there being but one among them that repays study, though several of the "Convention States" have surcharged their emblems or arms beneath overprinted envelope stamps of British India. The one Native production to which we refer is the first issue for Cochin in 1892. This



design is circular in form and incloses a six-pointed star-shaped figure made of two triangles interlaced. In the central hexagon thus produced will be found the insignia of the royal house of Cochin; the palanquin, umbrella, lamp and conch shell already described. But the double triangle has also a special significance, being a sacred emblem not only of the Hindus, but also of the Buddhists and even of the Jews. In Hindu mythology the triangle with its apex upward represents fire, it being the propensity of this element to soar upward, and, therefore is a symbol of Siva, the Destroyer. The triangle with its apex downward, on the other hand, represents water, because of the propensity of the latter element to descend, and, therefore is a symbol of Vishnu: the Preserver, who rules this element. The elements of fire and water are supposed to be those in which the active and passive productive powers of the universe respectively exist, since nothing appears to be produced with.

out them and whenever they are joined there is production of some sort. This is exemplified by vegetation, springing from the soil under the influence of the heat of the sun and moisture. The double triangle, therefore, is a symbol of creation or, broadly, the universe. (Compare the

T'ai Chi or Yang and Yin figure of the Chinese).

It may be interesting to know that this geometrical figure formed the ornamentation on the reverse side of the tiny copper coins of the Malabar coast, called kasu, which the early navigators found on their exploring and trading expeditions to the East Indies. The Portuguese translated the name into caixa and the English into cash, the term later being extended to include the only coined money of the Chinese as well. It will be noticed that the envelope stamps are not only circular but have a dentated border which heightens their resemblance to a coin, so that it seems natural to suppose their prototype to have been the ancient kasu or some more modern coin of similar type.



Trancore also has an envelope stamp of distinctive type, but as its principal feature is the conch shell, which we have already treated fully under the adhesives, it is unnecessary to say anything further here except that it is of slightly more ornamental form in the present instance.

In the case of the British Indian envelopes surcharged for the "Convention States," there are two which are represented merely by emblems impressed beneath the stamp. These are Chamba and Gwalior.



Chamba has a representation of the sun alone, from which fact we should naturally expect to find some direct claim of its ruling family to membership in the great Suryavansa or "Solar race," to which we have already made extended reference under Jaipur. As a matter of fact the present Raja is a descendant of the Raja Sail, a scion of the royal house of Marwar or Jodhpur, who came to Chamba early in the thirteenth century and became its ruler. The Maharajas of Jodhpur

are chiefs of the great Rahtor clan or tribe of the Rajputs, who claim descent from the legendary hero Rama, so that the Raja of Chamba is entirely within his rights in displaying this symbol of the "Race of the Sun."

The device found beneath the surcharged envelope stamps of Gwalior represents the sun between two cobras. This is due to a family legend that Ranoji Scindia, the founder of the State, when an infant, was once sheltered from the heat of the sun by the expanded hood of a cobra-di-capello. It may be remembered that in speaking of the Holkars of Indore, and the fact that the family name of the rulers had become by fame and long usage almost the equivalent of a title, the Scindia or Sindhia family of Gwalior was mentioned. It is a little curious that the latter family should have had almost the same early history as the Holkars. The founder, Ranoji Sindhia, came of a respectable but poor Mahratta family, his father being the hereditary pant or chief official of a village in the Deccan. The boy became a slipper bearer to the Peshwar Balaji Rao, and by a careful attention to this menial duty attracted the notice of his master, who finally elevated him to the command of his body-guard. From that time the rise of Ranoji was rapid. soon distinguished himself as one of the most daring and formidable leaders of the Mahratta army, and acquired several possessions in Malwa. He died in 1750 and his successor lost most of the family possessions by defeat in battle in 1761. They were recovered, however, through the efforts of Madhadji Sindhia, an illegitimate son of Ranoji, and the family was finally confirmed in its possessions by treaty with the British in 1781.



The four remaining "Convention States," Faridkot, Jhind, Nabha and Patiala, have their arms impressed beneath the surcharged envelope stamps of British India. As we have no particular description of these, their "charges", or the reasons for the use of the latter, we shall not attempt to describe them; but it may be mentioned en passant that the arms of Jhind are enclosed in the same heart-shaped frame that we noted upon its earlier adhesive issues of native manufacture. Evidently it has some special significance which has not yet appeared to us. The similarity of the arms of Jhind and Patiala may also be noticed,

each containing a ring in the center, which is supposed to be a target, and a pair of crossed arms above and below. The supporters for Jhind are two lions, while those for Patiala are a lion and a horse. The similarity may be accounted for in part by the fact that the royal houses of both states trace their descent from the same ancestor, one Chandhari Phul, who founded a village in the Nabha territory about the middle of the seventeenth century. The ruling house of Nabha also descends in a direct line from Phul, so that these families are accordingly known as the Phulkian Houses. Jhind and Patiala, however, were founded simultaneously in 1763, about a century later than Nabha.

Afghantistan.

On the northwest frontier of the Indian Empire lies the independent kingdom of Afghanistan. This State is composed of various tribes and principalities kept together and in subjection by military rule. It is divided into four administrative provinces: Kabul, Turkistan, Herat and Kandahar, the ruler being the Khan of Kabul, who is styled the Amir of Afghanistan. The first stamps were issued in 1870, and



though rather rare would doubtless be recognized by almost any collector who has possessed a catalogue. The circular designs, with the "Cheshire cat" peeping out of the "bull's eye" and the border of curious characters, have invested them with an individualty which has usually fascinated the stamp collector even if he never possessed a copy.

But the "Cheshire cat" is naturally there with a purpose, and that is to serve as a representation of the sovereign power—the Amir. From 1863 until the latter part of 1878 the ruler of Afghanistan was Sher Ali Khan, of whose name the first word, sher, is the Persian for a lion or tiger. It is, therefore, a play upon the Amir's name that is responsible for the head upon the stamps, which is doubtless that of a tiger rather than a lion, if the roughness of the drawing really allows us to distinguish, because of its fullness and roundness. Sher Ali was driven into exile by the British in the latter part of 1878 and his successor, Yakub Khan, invited further reprisals by the massacre of the British political mission at Kabul in 1879. The result was his overthrow and the proclamation of Abdur Rahman Khan as Amir in July, 1880. Times had been so strenuous after Sher Ali's flight that

postage stamps apparently had not been thought of, the last issue bearing the tiger's head having appeared in June, 1878. Yakub Khan did not have time to prepare any and it was only after Abdur Rahman had been firmly seated on the throne that stamp issues began to appear again. He kept the same general form for his labels, but the tiger's head was, of course, omitted and in its place the denomination of the stamp appears.



In 1893 a new design appeared, oblong in form, with a device in a circle occupying the upper center. This device is stated to be a mosque gate, with a flag at each side of it and two cannon crossed beneath. Its particular significance or applicability to Abdur Rahman has not appeared, but Sir D. P. Masson states that the Amir used this device on his personal seal, which was impressed in wax on His Highness' personal correspondence. It has been suggested that it may be illustrative of a Mohammedan version of the famous admonition: "Trust in God

and keep your powder dry."

With regard to the inscriptions, it may be stated that they are written in the Persi-Arabic character, Persian being a language familiar to all the educated Afghans. The first design illustrated begins its inscription at the right of the bottom ornament and reads from outside the circle, following the motion of the hands of a watch, ending opposite the right hand ornament. Between the two ends of the inscription will be found the date according to the Hegira or Mohammedan era. The inscription reads Mahsul chappa-khana dar ul Saltanat Kabul, or "Duty Post-office, Capital of the Kingdom of Kabul." For the new type of 1893 I take Sir D. P. Masson's description: "Beginning at the right hand upper corner of the stamp we have the date 1310 [1893 A. D.], and the word mahsul (tax or duty). Examining now the characters tothe left of the circle we find a reversed acrobatic R and a group of letters on its left, all representing the word kaghas (paper). The lettering over these represents dak-khana (post office). Coming back to the right hand side, the two comma-shaped letters and the long snake-like lettering stretching right across the stamp represent the word Daulat (Kingdom). Returning again to the right edge and its lowest line, the first two groups and the crescent-and-star character above spell Afghanistan. Then comes the 3-like word fi, followed by ek mishgal ek abasi." The last phrase signifies "one abasi per miskal", the miskal being a weight equal to about 70 grains troy. The Afghan money is based on the "Cabul rupee", which is divided into 3 abasi, 6 sanar or 12 shahi.

Abdur Rahman Khan died on Oct. 3, 1901, and was succeeded by his son, Habibullah Khan, the present Amir. In 1903 it was announced in the press that: "The Amir of Afghanistan, having determined that

the postage stamps manufactured during the reign of his father should be used up, no new ones have as yet been issued. The entire stock has now been exhausted and, pending the acceptance of a new design, sealing wax impressed with the official stamp [seal?] is being used." Nothing has been seen of a new design yet, however, nor does there seem to have been any particular development in Afghan postal matters for the past three years. The Monthly Journal not long ago published the following clipping from The Times of India for Feb. 27, 1906: "The Amir has issued orders that in future letters posted in Afghanistan are not to stamped, but to bear the impression of a metal seal." This would look as if the practice of using a "PAID" postmark, such as was employed in the "olden days before postage stamps", would henceforth rule in the Amir's dominions and we should have to close our albums on Afghanistan.

(To be continued.)



The Die Varieties of the Nesbitt Series of United States Envelopes.

By Victor M. Berthold. Copyrighted. All rights reserved.

[Continued from page 132.]

A REFERENCE LIST OF THE ENVELOPES OF THE SERIES OF 1864 AND 1865.

1864.

THREE CENT, ROSE.

DIE A.

HEAD I.

No.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Dimensions.	Variety.	Remarks.
501	White	22	1	120x73	1	
502	6.6	22	1	66	2	
503	66	22	1	66	3	
504	6.6	22	1	66	4	
505	66	11	3	139x83	1	
506	6.6	11	3	66	1	Unwatermarked.
507	6.6	11	3	46	2	
508	66	11	3	66	3	
509	66	11	3	66	4	
510	66	9	3	66	1	
511	66	9	3	66	2	
512	4.6	9	3	6.6	3	
513	6.6	9	3	66	4	
514	66	12	5	160x90	2	
515	6.6	12	5	66	3	
516	66	12	5	66	4	
517	Buff	11	3	139x83	2	
518	66	11	3	66	3	
519	66	11	3	44	4	
520	44	9	3	66	1	
521	64	9	3	66	2	
522	66	9	3	66	3	
523	6.6	9	3	6.6	4	
524	66	12	5	160x90	2	
525	66	12	5	66	4	
526	Buff 2nd	11	3	139x83	3	
527	66	11	3	6.6	4	
528	Amber	11	3	66	1	
529	66	11	3	66	2	
530	66	11	3	66	3	

No.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Dimension.	Variety.	Remarks.	
531	Amber	11	3	139x83	3	Ungummed.	
532	66	11	3	66	4		
533	66	9	3	66	3		
534	66	9	3	66	4		
535	66	12	5	160x90	2		
536	66	12	5	4.6	3		
537	66	12	5	66	4		
538	Amber 2nd		3	139x83	2		
539	66	11	3	44	3		
540	44	11	3	44	4		
010							
				HEAD	П.		
541	White	22	1	120 x 73	1		
542	66	22	1	14	2		
543	66	22	1	66	3		
544	44	11	3	139x83	1		
	4.6	11	3	100000	2		
545	64	11	3		3		
546	66	9	3		1		
547	44	9	3	66	2		
548		9		66	3		
549	44	-	3		1		
550	66	12	5	160x90			
551		12	5	"	2		
552		12	5		3		
553	Amber	11	3	139x83	1		
554	66	11	3	44	2		
555		11	3		4		
556	66	9	3	4.6	1		
557	66	9	3		3		
558	44	12	5	160 x 90	2		
559	4.6	12	5	44	3		
				HEAD !	III.		
560	White	22	1	120x73	1		
561	4.6	22	1	66	2		
562	66	22	1	44	3		
563	1.5	2	3	139x83	3	Probably a proof. ::Ui	1-
564	**	11	3	66	1	gummed.	
565	**	11	3	"	2		
	66	11	3	66	3		
566	6.6			- 66			
567	66	9	3	"	$\frac{1}{2}$		
568	66	9	3				
569	6-6	12	5	160x90	1		
570		12	5		2	D-1-11	
571	Buff	2	3	139x83	3	Probably a proof. Ungummed.	1-
572	66	11	3	66	1		
573	44	11	3	66	2		

No.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Dimensions.	Variety.	Remarks.
574	Buff	11	3	139x83	3	
575	66	9	3	6.6	1	
576	66	9	3	66	2	
577	44	9	3	44	2	Without patent lines.
578	66	9	3	4.6	3	*
579	44	12	5	6.6	1	
580		12	5	* 6	2	
				HEAD I	V.	
581	White	22	1	120x73	1	
582	66	22	1	66	2	
583	2.6	22	1	2.6	3	
584	44	1	1	4.6	2	
585	11	11	3	139x83	2	
586		11	3	44	3	
587	66	11	3	66	3	Unwatermarked
588	- 44	9	3	44	1	
589	4.4	9	3	66	2	
590	22	9	3	44	3	
591	11	12	5	160x90	1	
592	11	12	5	66	2	
593	11	12	5	46	3	
594	Buff	11	3	139x83	1	
595	66	11	3	16	2	
596		11	3	66	3	
597	64	9	3		1	
598	2.5	9	3	46	2	
599	44	9	3	**	3	
600	6.6	12	5	160x90	1	
601	44	12	5	66	2	
		12			2	
				HEAD V.		
602	White	11	3	139x83	3	
603	Buff	11	3	66	2	
604	Buff 2nd	1 11	3	66	2	
605	6.6	11	3	44	3	
				DID		
				DIE E		
				HEAD	1.	
606	White	22	1	120x73	2	
607	66	9	3	139x83	2	
608	66	12	5	160x90	1	
609	Buff	9	3	139x83	2	
610	66	9	3	100200	3	
010		0	0		0	

				HEAD I	II.	
No.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Dimensions.	Variety.	Remarks.
611	White	22	1	120x73	1	
612	66	22	1	66	3	
613	66	9	3	139x83	3	
614	66	12	5	160x90	4	
615	Amber	9	3	139x83	1	
616	66	12	5	160×90	2	
617	66	12	5	66	3	
				HEAD !	IV.	
618	White	22	1	120x73	1	
619	66	11	3	139x83	2	
620	6.6	9	3	66	1	
621	66	9	3	66 -	44	
622	66	9	3	66	3	
623	6.6	12	5	160x90	1	
624	6.6	12	5	44	2	
625	Buff	11	3	139x83	1	
626	66	12	5	160x90	1	
627	66	12	5	66	2	
628	Buff 2nd	1 11	3	139x83	2	
629	Amber	12	5	160x90	3	
				1865		

THREE CENTS, BROWN.

DIE A.

HEAD I.

White	21	7	225x98	2
Buff	21	7	66	1
6.6	21	7	6.6	2
66	21	7	66	2
66	21	7	66	3
			HEAD I	.1
White	21	7	225x98	2
Buff	21	7	66	2
66	21	7	"	3
			HEAD II	I.
	Buff	Buff 21 21 21 21 21 White 21 Buff 21	Buff 21 7 21 7 21 7 21 7 21 7 White 21 7 Buff 21 7	Buff 21 7 " " 21 7 " " 21 7 " " 21 7 " " 21 7 " " 21 7 " "

638	White	21	7	225x98	2
639	Buff	21	7	6.6	1
640	66	21	7	6.6	2
641	Amber	21	7	6.6	1

HEAD IV.

No.	Paper.	Knife.		Dimensions.	Variety.	Remarks.
642	White	21	7		1	
643	66	21	7		2	
644	66	21	7		3	
645	Buff	21	7		1	
646	4.6	21	7		2	
					-	
				DIE B.		
				HEAD !	ī.	
647	White	21	7	225x98	2	
648	Buff	21	7	6.6	2	
				HEAD I	I.	
649	White	21	7	225x98	4	
				229X98	4	
650	Amber	21	7	• •	4	
			SIX	CENTS, I	PURPLE.	
				HEAD	r	
				HEAD	1.	
651	White	11	3	139x83		
652	Amber	11	3	66		
				***	**	
				HEAD I	11.	
653	White	11	3	139x83		
654	Buff	11	3	66		
655	Amber	11	3	66		
			-			
			SI	X CENTS,	ROSE.	
				HEAD !	Ι.	
656	White	21	7	225x98		
657	Amber	21	7	66		
001	22,44,701	,		HEAD II	Τ.	
050	3372.44	04	-			
658	White	21	7	225x98		
659	Buff	21	7	66		
660	Amber	21	7	66		
			NINI	E CENTS,	YELLOW.	
661	Buff	21	7	225x98		
662	Amber	21	7	66		
		-		O O D NAME	ODANOE	
			NINI	E CENTS,	ORANGE.	
663	Buff	21	7	225x98		
664	Amber	21	7	66		

TWELVE CENTS, BROWN.

665 666	Buff Anber	$\frac{21}{21}$	7	225x98		
000	rinoer		ELVE	CENTS, RE	D-BROWN.	
667	Buff	21	7	225x98		
			EIGH	TEEN CENT	S, RED.	
668	Buff	20	8	249x104		
		TW	ENT	Y-FOUR CEN	NTS, BLUE.	
669	Buff	20	8	249x104		
670	6.6	20	8	66	Dark blue	
671	Amber	20	8	66		
		1	THIR	TY CENTS,	GREEN.	
672	Buff	20	8	249x104	Yellow-g	reen.
673	6.6	20	8	6.6	Dark gre	
674	66	20	8	66	Olive-gre	
			FOI	RTY CENTS,	ROSE.	
675	Buff	20	8	249x104		

APPENDIX

SERIES OF 1853-1855.

DIE I.

Since the publication of the early portion of the present work the writer has discovered two new varieties of this die, both with Head 1, which must be known as varieties 1a and 2a and which, therefore, necessitate his re-writing the descriptions of Vars. 1 and 2.

He has, also, re-written the description of variety 3 with the idea of enabling collectors to more easily differentiate between it and the other varieties.

The following should, therefore replace the discriptions of these varieties on pages 107 and 108 of the JOURNAL for 1905.

HEAD 1.

LONG SIDE LOCK.

Var. 1. "CENTS" is near the frame line. "C" and "N" are in an almost vertical position. "N" is near "T." "S" is near curve. Letters "TH" are parallel and slant to left.

A line drawn along the "E" of "CENTS" and prolonged upwards touches the right endof the top stroke of the first "E" of "THREE."

- Var. 1a. The "C" of "CENTS" and "R" of "THREE" slant distinctly to the right. "EN" close and near outer frame line. "N" and "T" are wide at base. A line drawn along "E" touches the left end of the top stroke of the final "E,"
- Var. 2. "TH" of "THREE" widely spaced and "R" is almost in center of label and vertical. The "N" of "CENTS" slants to the right and is far from "T" at top and base. The top of "S" is some distance from curve. There is a flaw in the outer colored line nearly opposite the tip of nose. A line drawn along "E" touches right the end of the top stroke of the final "E."
- Var. 2a. There is a flaw in the red outer frame line nearly opposite the junction of the queue with the garment "CENTS" is near the inner frame line. "HR" wide at top and near at base. "C" is some distance from the curve. "EN" near. "N" short and broad. The upper right curve is nearly a straight line. A line drawn along "E" touches the left end of the top stroke of the second "E" of "THREE."

HEAD Ia.

SHORT SIDE LOCK.

Var. 3 The "C" of "CENTS" is high and close to curve. "CE" very wide. "EN" wide. "N" nearly vertical. "EN" close at top. A line drawn along "E" touches the left end of the top stroke of the final "E."

ADDENDA.

The following envelopes and wrappers have been discovered since the lists were published and should, therefore, be added to them.

1860.

ENVELOPES.

No.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Dimensions.	Gum.	Remarks.
177a	L. Or.	5	3	139x83	U	
178a	В	5	3	66	U	
178b	В	5	3	66	U	No watermark.
178c	Y.B.	5	3	66	U	" wove paper
184a	В	11	3	66	G	
184b	W	11	3	66		

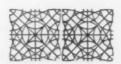
No.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Dimensions.	Gum.
187a	В	7	2	137x77	G
199a	W	7	2	66	G

WRAPPERS.

No.	Paper.	Dimensions.	Laid	Distance o	of stamp from upper edge.	Remarks.
. 245a	В.	148x225	H	35		
245b	S. B.	252x225	H	36	No watermark.	

ERRATA.

- Page 111, last line under Head 6, read : narrow for "norrow."
- " 155, add to description of Var, Head XI: there is usually a flaw in the outer colored line opposite the lower left straight line near "C."
 - Page 219, Head XVIII, second line, after "eye-brow", read; some distance instead of: "a considerable distance."
 - " 223, No. 46 should read: "W 2 3 139x82."
 - " " " 47 " " "B 2 3 "
 - " 225, No. 89 and 90, under "Remarks, add:" Reprints on white and buff vertically laid paper."
 - " 226, No. 121 and 122, nnder "Remarks, cancel: "Reprints on white and buff vertically laid paper."
 - " 257, Variety 3, add: "distance from "E" to "C" is 3½ mm."
 - " The cut marked "7" should have its number changed to "9."
 - "The cut marked "9" should have its number changed to "7."



The Postal Issues of Sweden, 1855-1905.

Published at the 50 Year Jubilee of Swedish Postage Stamps by THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SWEDEN.

Authorized translation by L. Harald Kjellstedt, C. E., American Representative The Philatelic Society of Sweden.

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(Continued from page 118.)

THE INTRODUCTION OF POSTAGE STAMPS IN ENGLAND.



n England the question of cheap and uniform postage gave impetus to the introduction of postage stamps. Uniform postage and postage stamps are, therefore, two separate issues which are not necessarily dependent upon each other. In this instance the two questions were solved together and this circumstance has given some the erroneous idea that it was the introduction of the postage stamp

which hastened the postal development, while, if the establishment of uniform postage played any part therein, it was of secondary importance.

This, however, was not the case. A postal tariff easily calculated and, above all, cheap, was, to the Englishman of that time, such a pressing need that its realization overshadowed the postal reform which made its appearance at the same time: postage stamps as a means for the prepayment of postage.

In 1830 there was a postal tariff in force in Great Britain which has been considered the highest that ever existed. The distance which a letter travelled was the basis on which the postal rates were figured and, for that purpose, zones of 15, 20, 30, 50, 80, 120, 170, 230, 300, 400 and 500 English miles, etc., had been established. The postage rates were:

For single letters, 4 pence for the first zone and an additional 1 penny for every zone following;

For double letters, double the rates for a single letter;

For letters triple or more, not exceeding 1 ounce, 1 shilling for the 1st zone and another 3 pence for every additional zone, and

For letters exceeding 1 ounce in weight, 1 shilling 4 pence for the 1st zone and an additional 4 pence for every zone following.

A letter written on one sheet was counted as single if it did not weigh more than 1 ounce (28.34 grammes). If one enclosure was added to the letter it was counted as double and if there were two enclosures, as triple.

For letters which weighed more than one ounce an additional single postage was charged for each added \(\) ounce. If the letter was to be

carried across the Irish channel the rate was higher.

With such a scale the cost, even for light weight mail matter, amounted to a considerable sum. Another inconvenience was, that the distance, which was the basis for the rating, was calculated, not to correspond with a straight line between the places of mailing and delivery, but according to the very round-about post roads. Rates, fair to all persons, could not be in force without a very complicated control.

That the English, who at that time were ahead of the other European nations in commercial and industrial development and who had already adopted steam as the motive power for transportation on land and sea, were content with these postage rates can only be explained by

the means found to evade the restrictions of this tariff.

The Committee appointed by Parliament for the discussion of the question of postage reform discovered several ways used by the people, to avoid the heavy postage charge. One way consisted in the use of very large letter sheets and the writing of several letters on one sheet to

different persons, residing in the same place.

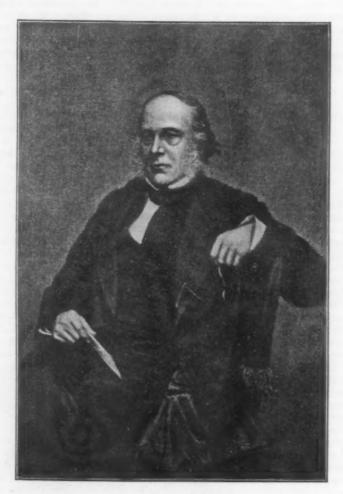
The most common way was to forward communications by other means than the Post. According to reports at the time, whole packages of letters, often in large consignments, were forwarded by steamboats, stage coach, railroads and numerous other private and public conveyances. Every farmer, who on certain days in the week travelled to the nearby city, had a kind of post-office at his house and carried letters both forth and back. In the larger cities, by paying a small fee, one could leave letters with book dealers and others who would send packages to different parts of the country. Merchants of a city entered into agreements to forward, in turn, each others' letters, all made up into one package, by freight wagon and stage coach to their respective correspondents in other places, who took care of the distribution and, in their turn, could count on the same service being extended to them. As the railway system was extended, more opportunities were offered for the sending of letters by travellers and these practices grew in a constantly increasing proportion. The forwarding of packages of letters from one city to another was made considerably easier through a service, established in the cities, which delivered letters within every city at a very small postage rate. The post-office department thus assisted in distributing letters which had been forwarded through other agencies than the postal service. The only effective means of putting a stop to this abuse was to so reduce the tariff that the inducement to fraudulent practices would be removed. Only by such a measure could the whole correspondence be brought over to the post-office department.

The man who made himself the sponsor of this reform question, clearly saw its far-reaching results, and through whose energy it was brought to a happy solution, thereby gaining for himself a lasting

fame, was Rowland Hill.

He was born at Kidderminster, December 3d, 1795. His father, an intelligent and well educated man who, in earlier days had engaged in the merchant trade, had founded a school and, at the early age of 11 years, young Rowland was already assisting his father in teaching. At the age of 12 he ceased to be a pupil and became himself a teacher.

When a little over 30 years old, Rowland, together with one of his brothers, founded, at Tottenham, in the neighborhood of London, a school of his own. On account of the tedious work his health failed and, in consequence, he lost his ambition as a teacher and was soon looking around for some other occupation.



ROWLAND HILL

Hill had, for a long time, been known by the leading members of the Liberal party as an enthusiast on political and social reforms and, on the strength of this, he was appointed secretary of a company formed for the colonization of South Australia. This position he held during four years, giving excellent service. In the meantime he had become interested in postal matters and soon discovered numerous inconsistencies in then existing conditions. In the first place, the very high tariff for forwarding letters, above referred to, seemed especially to call for a speedy and thorough reform.

It was with considerable trouble that Hill succeeded in collecting the statistics necessary for a discussion of the question, but in 1837 he was able to present his proposition for a uniform postage in a pamphlet entitled Post Office Reform. Its principal features were as follows:

Letters, not exceeding 1 ounce in weight, should be forwarded from one place to another within the United Kingdom for 1 penny regardless of the distance between the places.

Letters, weighing more than \(\frac{1}{2}\) ounce but not above 1 ounce, should

be forwarded for 2 pence, etc.

The postage should be prepaid at the time of mailing by means of stamped paper or stamped envelopes, and every post-office should always have a supply of such paper for sale.

The stamped paper should be divided into little squares, each corresponding to a single postage (1 penny), and have the reverse coated with a solution of gum, so that the correspondent himself could fasten one or more of these postage stamps on the letter according to its weight.

Until they had become accustomed to compulsory franking, correspondents should have the right to choose between prepayment of the letter at the time of mailing or of having the receiver release it by the payment of double the amount. This right should cease as soon as possible.

Hill considered uniform postage as a decided advantage, not only

because of its justice, but because of its great convenience.

The system was just, because the receiving and distributing of letters was the more costly portion of the work when compared with the cost of transportation between places, which was inconsiderable and often so small that the smallest copper coin would overpay it. As all letters, whether they were destined for places near by or far away, had to be received and distributed, the cost of this would be common and the same for all letters. The remaining small cost of transportation of the letter did not depend on the greater or smaller distance to the place of destination, but on other conditions. The cost of transportation, for instance, of a letter between London and Edinburgh, 400 miles distant from each other, was 1/36 of a penny, while the same cost for a letter between London and Louth (148 miles) was many times more on account of the small number of letters carried as compared with the great number forwarded daily to Edinburgh. Consequently it would be unjust to increase the postage in proportion to the distance and far more proper to let all letters pay the same rate. The same correspondent would generally send letters just as often to the more distant places as to those nearer and to him the result would, generally speaking, be the same if the postage was uniform or he had to pay a little more than the average one day and a little less another.

The system would prove to be a convenience, as much to the public as to the postal officials, when figuring rates, receiving payments, or accounting for the funds. Much bookkeeping, which would have to be kept and audited and stored away, would be entirely unnecessary, especially if the sender was compelled to prepay all letters by means of postage stamps fastened thereon. The convenience to the public would consist in no longer being obliged to pay postage in small amounts and keeping daily account of such expenses, but being able to provide themselves, at one time, with a large supply of stamps for the

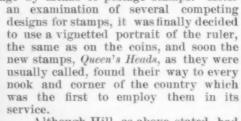
needs of an extended period.

A parliamentary committee was appointed for the purpose of obtaining the necessary data on the subject and this committee arranged for investigations which brought before the public the enormous abuses which were practised in connection with the postal service. On account of the considerable reduction in revenue, which it was feared the exchequer would suffer as a result of the proposed reduction of postage rates, and which it was not expected would be made good during the first year by an increased correspondence, the committee hesitated between adopting Hill's proposed one penny rate of postage

and one of two pence.

When, in 1839, the question came up for decision in parliament, it was ordered that the domestic postage should be reduced to a uniform rate of one penny for such weight as should be decided upon later. The government adopted Hill's proposition and, in December of the same year, it was announced that the new tariff would become effective on January 10, 1840, so that on and after that date, a letter not exceeding ½ ounce in weight would be forwarded from and to every place within England, Scotland, and Ireland for a uniform postage of one penny, if prepaid, and two pence if the postage was to be paid by the receiver. Letters weighing more than ½ but not above one 1 ounce should be charged double postage, etc. The highest permissible weight for a letter was fixed at 16 ounces, but a few exceptions were made to this rule.

Thus came about what was, probably, the most important postal reform which was ever carried out at one time. It was a perfect success, and one of the essentials contributing to that success was found to be the new way of paying postage by means of postage stamps. After



Although Hill, as above stated, had the postage stamps on his programme, his right to this invention has been questioned and has been awarded to James Chalmers, a bookdealer and printer, from Dundee. A great number of pamphlets bearing on this controversy have been published.

After the postage reform had been



JAMES CHALMERS

carried out, Hill was at first engaged by the English postal department as an adviser on questions pertaining to the postal service. Party strife caused his retirement from this position for a few years but, in 1846, he resumed his connection with the postal department and he served first as secretary to the Postmaster General, and from 1854 as chief secretary. His service by this time resulted in a number of reforms and as a recognition of his merits he was created a knight by the queen. When, in 1864, Hill resigned from the service of the postal department, parliament voted him a reward of 20,000 pounds sterling and a yearly pension of 2,000 pounds. Hill died August 27th,

1879, and is buried in Westminster Abbey.

The example set by England was soon followed by other states. Thus, in 1843, the new system was introduced into Brazil, Geneva and Zurich; in 1845 into Finland and Basle; in 1846 into the Unites States of North America; in 1848 into Russia; in 1849 into France, Belgium, Bavaria, and New South Wales; in 1850 into Spain, Austria, Switzerland, Prussia, Saxony and several smaller German States; in 1851 into Denmark, Sardinia and Tuscany; in 1852 into the Thurn and Taxis service, Luxemburg and most of the Italian States; in 1853 into Portugal; in 1854 into Norway; 1855 into Sweden; 1857 into Mexico; 1861 into Greece and the United Kingdom of Italy, 1863 into Turkey and 1871 into Japan.

(To be continued.)



Notes Upon Stamps and their Varieties.

BY GEO. L. TOPPAN.

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(Continued from page 125.)

ST. THOMAS AND PRINCE ISLANDS.

1879-77.



Fig. 880.

There are two types of the 5, 40 and 50r. differing from each; other as follows:

5r. black:-Type I:-The figure "5" is straight.

Type II:—The figure "5" is slanting.

40r. blue Type I:-The figure "4" is broad.

40r. yellow Type II:-The figure "4" is narrow.

50r. green Type I:-The figure "5" is straight.

50r. blue

Type II:—The figure "5" is slanting.

11889.



Fig. 881.

5r. on 20r. rose:-There are two varleties of the surcharge on this stamp.

Var. A:-The figure "5" is inverted.

Var. B:-The word "cinco" is mispelled "cinoc."

ST. VINCENT.

1880-81.



Fig. 882.

½d. on half of 6d, green.—There are two verieties of this surcharge.
Var. A:—The "1" of "½" has a straight top.
Var. B:—The fraction bar is omitted.

1890-91.



Fig. 883.

2½d. on,4d. violet-brown:—There is a variety in this surcharge. It consists of the omission of the fraction bar.

SALVADOR.

1879.



Fig. 884.

W1: 1c. green:—A variety of this stamp is known in which the second "A;" in "SALVADOR" is an inverted "V".

1889.



Fig. 885.

2c. scarlet:—There is a variety of the surcharge upon this stamp in which there are two bars instead of one.

1891.



Fig. 886.

1c. on 2c. light green:—This stamp is known in unsevered pairs one with the surcharge and the other without it.

1892.



Fig. 887.



Fig. 888

1c. on 5c. gray:—A variety of the surcharge upon this stamp is known in which the "U" of "UN" is omitted (Fig. 887).

1c. on 20c. orange:—A variety of the surcharge upon this stamp is known in which the "V" of "CENTAVO" is inverted.

1893.



Fig. 889.

1c. on 2c. brown-red:—A variety of this surcharge is known which reads: "CENTAVO" instead of "CENTAVO".

1894.



Fig SOO

1c. on 11c. vermilion:-A variety of the surcharge is known in which "CENTAVO" is misspelled "CONTAVO".

1897.



Fig. 891.

There are two types of each of these stamps, as follows:

1c blue, gold, rose and green :-

Type I:-The mountains are outlined in red and blue. The sea is represented by short red and dark blue lines on a light blue background.

Type II:-The mountains are outlined in red only. The sea is

printed in green and dark blue and is much blurred.

5c rose, gold, blue and green :-

Type I:-The sea is represented by horizontal and diagonal lines

of dark blue on a light blue background.

Type II:—The sea is printed in green and dark blue and is much blurred. The gold inscription is in thicker letters than in type I.



Transito Territorial

Fig. 893.

5c. blue-green:—An error of the surcharge of this stamp, Fig. 892 surcharged as shown in Fig. 893, is known in which the third "R" of "TERRITORIAL" is an italic letter.

1900.

1900

1 centavo Fig. 894.

These stamps are of the type shown in figure 892 surcharged as is shown in figure 894. The following varieties of the surcharge are known: 2c. on 12c. purple:

Var. A:-" EENTAVO" for "CENTAVO".
Var. B:-"CENTAVOS" "

Var. C:-There is an extra numeral below "CENTAVO".

Var. D:—There are extra numerals above and below "CENTAVO." 2c. on 13c, red-brown:

Var. A:- "EENTAVO" for "CENTAVO".

3c. on 12c. purple:

Var. A:- "EENTAVO" for "CENTAVO."

5c. on 24c. violet.

Var. A:- "EENTAVO" for "CENTAVO."

Var. B:-There is an extra numeral below "CENTAVO."

Var. C:-There are two numerals below "CENTAVO."



Fig. 895.

This issue is the same as the last excepting that the stamps are of the design shown in figure 895.

1c. on 13c. deep rose.

Var. A:-"EENTAVO" for "CENTAVO."

Var. B:-" ECNTAVO " "

Var. C:—"1 CENTAVO 1." Figure "1" both before and after "CENTAVO."

2c. on 12c. dark green.

Var. A:- "EENTAVO" for "CENTAVO."

2c, on 13c. deep rose.

Var. A:-"EENTAVO" for "CENTAVO."

Var. B:-" ECNTAVO " "

3c. on 12c. dark green.

Var. A:-"EENTAVO" for "CENTAVO"



Fig. 908

This series is the same as that shown by figure 892 surcharged with figure 894 and with the additional surcharge as illustrated by figure 896. 2c. on 12c. purple.

Var. A:—"EENTAVO" for "CENTAVO."

Var. B:-"CENTAVOS"

Var. C:-There is an extra numeral below "CENTAVO."

3c. on 12c. purple:

Var. A:- "EENTAVO" for "CENTAVO."

We now come to the series of 1899 (figure 895) surcharged as shown in figures 894 and 896. The varieties are:

1c. on 2c. gray-green:

Var. A:- "EENTAVO" for "CENTAVO."

Var. B:-The "wheel" surcharged twice. 1c. on 13c. deep rose.

Var. A:- "EENTAVO" for "CENTAVO."

2c. on 12c. dark green:

Var.A:-" EENTAVO " for " CENTAVO."

2c. on 13c. deep rose.

Var. A:- "EENTAVO" for "CENTAVO."

3c. on 12c. dark green.

Var. A:- "EENTAVO" for "CENTAVO."

5c. on 24c. light blue.

Var. A:- "EENTAVO" for "CENTAVO."

5c on 26c. carmine-rose.

Var. A:- "EENTAVO" " for CENTAVO."

1900.





Fig. 898.

This series, of the type as illustrated by figure 897, was not supposed to be issued without the surcharge shown by figure 898 or two others of a similar nature. One value, however, is known without the surcharge. It is the:

1c. green.

1905.

1905 1905 190

Fig. 899.

Fig. 901.

Fig. 903.

During this year and the early part of 1906 this country indulged in a flood of surcharges, among which were the five different types of "1905" illustrated above. All these above types were applied to the regular series of 1900, figure 897, which had already received the shield surcharge as illustrated by figure 898 and 904. The various types of "1905" may be distinguished as follows:

Type A:-The figures measure 54 mm. high and the "1" has a slanting serif (Fig. 899).

Type B:—The figures are 5 mm, high and the "1" has a straight

serif (Fig. 900).

Type C:—The figures are 4 mm, high; the "1" has a slanting serif and the figures are further apart than in either type A or B (Fig 901).

Type D:—This is similar to type A but the figures are but 4½ mm. high (Fig 902).

Type E:-In this type the figures are 5 mm. high and are very thin and narrow (Fig 903).

A curious fact in connection with these surcharges is that the 3c black, surcharged with type A, is known without the surcharge of the arms, a condition in which it is unknown without the "1905" surcharge.



Next to be used for surcharging was the series of 1903, illustrated by figure 905, and among the surcharges to be applied to it were those illustated by figures 906, 907 and 908.

The first of the surcharges, figure 906, was printed in strips of four, each differing slightly from the others. They may be distinguished

as follows:

Var. A:—This, the first stamp of the strip, has the upper figures of value 2\frac{1}{2} mm. high; the lower surcharge measures 17\frac{1}{2} mm. in length across the bottom and the letters of "CENTAVO" are uniform and well spaced.

Var. B:—The upper figures are 3 mm. high; the lower surcharge is 18 mm. in lengh; the diagonal stroke of the "N" is thick and the

"O" is shorter than the other letters.

Var. C:—The upper figures are $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm. high; the lower surcharge is $17\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in length and the "N" is very narrow and compressed.

Var. D:—The upper figuers are about 31 mm. high; the lower surcharge is 18 mm. in length and the "O"; slants slightly to the left.

The surcharge illustrated by figure 907 was applied to several stamps but so far, but one noteworthy error is known, as follows:

1c on 13c red brown, blue surcharge:

Var.A:—The surcharge upon the right side of the stamp is omitted. The surcharge illustrated by figure 908 is prolific in vareties, probably because each "5" seems to have been separately printed by hand, they are as follows:

5c on 12c. slate:

Var. A:—Both upper "5's" omitted. This can only be told from the type having only a "5" in each lower corner when it is se tenant with another stamp bearing all four "5's".

Var. B:—The upper left "5" is double. Var. C:—The lower left "5" is double.

Var. D:-The lower left "5" is inverted.

Var. E:—The lower right "5" is triple. Var. F:—The lower left "5" is omitted.

Var. G:—Pair, one with lower "5" is omitted.

Var. H:-Upper "5"s double, once in blue and once in black.



Danish West Indies.—We find that we have omitted to illustrate the design of the franc values which we chronicled last October, so do so now.



0 0 0 0 0

Greece.—We illustrate below the various designs of the new Olympian Games series.



Montenegro.—We illustrate herewith the surcharge which we chronicled in the January and February number.

VCTAB
Homosaan
1905

Panama.—We have recently had the pleasure of examining Mr. Frank Tweedy's collection of the stamps of this country, and a very fine one it is, and noted therein the following varieties which we have not listed: 1904, 5c blue, our No. 78, double surcharge; 1c green, our No. 132, inverted surcharge; 20c violet, our No. 135, no accent on the "a"; 1c green, our No. 151, diagonal surcharge; 5c blue, our No. 152, inverted surcharge and the same with diagonal surcharge, and 1905, 5c blue, our No. 84, with double inverted surcharge.

0 0 0 0 0

ROUMANIA.—We illustrate herewith the design of the charity stamps chronicled by us in *January*.



Turkey.—In our February number we chronicled several values of the current series, surcharged with a large "T," etc., as illustrated below, as postage due stamps. This we did upon the authority of Le Journal des Philatelistes.

We are now in receipt of a communication from Mr. J. B. Robert, of Gravenhage, Netherlands, in which he says: "In your esteemed paper I read on page 71, Turkey, a note about some stamps with the mark "T," etc. In my February paper I have warned our readers that it is not a surcharge but the postmark for letters not, or not sufficiently, franked, *** and signifies 'Taxe.' It is nothing more than a fake."



WURTEMBERG.—We find that we have omitted to illustrate the surcharge applied to the official stamps which we chronicled in January. It is as follows:





BAHAMAS.—Some of the current series on paper with the new watermark have made their appearance. The paper is not chalky.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Multiple Crown and C. A.

Perforated 14.

1p carmine

BERMUDA. — Some of our contemporaries note the one penny of the current series upon paper with the new watermark. It is not the chalky variety.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked Multiple Crown and C. A.

Perforated 14.

1p carmine and brown

DENMARK.—Ewen's Weekly Stamp News says that the five ore stamp has been re-engraved in the same way as the ten ore which we described last month.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked Crown.

Perforated 13x121.

5ö green

FRANCE. — Offices in China. — L'Echo de la Timbrologie says that the 5c of the current series is now printed in blue-green.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated 14x131.

5c blue-green

GAMBIA.—Several of our contemporaries list a new surcharge from this country. It is in two lines of heavy, sans serif capitals and has two bars below the new value.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked Multiple Crown and C. A.

Perforated 14.

Black surcharge.

½d on 2sh 6p purple and brown on yellow

GERMANY.—The 80pf has appeared on the new paper.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked Lozenges.

Perforated 14, 141.

80pf lake and black on rose

GERMANY.—Offices in the Turkish Empire.—Several of our contemporaries note another of the current series upon the watermarked paper.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked Lozenges.

Perforated 14, 141.

10pa on 5pf green

GOLD COAST.—Even's' Weekly Stamp News notes another value of the current series upon the chalky paper.

Adhesive stamp.

Chalk-surfaced paper.

Watermarked Multiple Crown and C. A.

Perforated 14.

1p violet and carmine

JAPAN. - We quote from the Metropolitan Philatelist: "Mr. Church has shown us two new stamps for internal use issued in this country. The design consists of a trophy of arms with the chrysanthemum above, circular frame inscribed in Japanese characters: 'Issued by the Department of Communications in commemoration of the Grand Military Review of the triumphal Army of the War, 37th and 38th vear of Meiji' (1904 and 1905). Rectangular ornamental frame having stars in the upper corners and value, in English, below."

Adhesive stamps.
Perforated.
1½s green
3s red

LAGOS.—Ewen's Weekly Stamp News notes another value of the current series upon the chalky paper.

Adhesive Stamp.

Chalk-surfaced paper.

Watermarked Multiple Crown and C. A.

Perforated 14. ½p green

NICARAGUA—Povince of Zelaya.

—We have seen the 1c of 1900, our type A14, surcharged "CABO" in large Italic upper and lower case letters and, also, two values of the 1905 series, our type A18, surcharged "CABO" in large sans serif letters. All are handstamped and, curiously enough, all that we have seen of the last type are inverted. The first type is surcharged horizontally and the second diagonally.

Adhesive stamps.
Perforated 12.
Purple surcharge.

1c red-violet (No. 121) 2c rose (" 180) 5c blue (" 183)

PANAMA. - We are in receipt of another monstrosity from the over worked printing presses of this country. The one peso, lake, of 1896 (our No. 21) is again the victim, but this time it is overprinted with the usual bar "PANA-MA" at each side and the new value "5cts," all in carmine. We presume that this color was selected for the surchatge because it stands out upon the lake background about as indistinctly as anything possible could. So far we have seen only a small block of them and as they have the bar at the top and bottom with "PANAMA"? three and four times upon each stamp, we presume that it is from a sheet which has been surcharged twice. If this is so, however, the new value must be printed separately, as none of the stamps have it more than once. The usual errors, "PANAMA" reading up and down and with an accent on the final "A" are present but we will defer describing them until we come into possession of an entire

Adhesive stamp. Perforated 12. Carmine surcharge. 5c on 1p lake

RUSSIA. — Offices in China. — L'Echo de la Timbrologie notes some new values of the current Russian series surcharged for use here.

Adhesive stamps.

Vertically laid paper. Watermarked Wavy lines.

Perforated 14½. Blue surcharge.

4k rose

70k brown and orange

Red surcharge
14k blue and rose
35k violet and green
Perforated 13½.
Red surcharge
3½r black and gray
Blue surcharge
7r black and yellow

SALVADOR.— We have seen a few more vagaries of the 5c on 12c surcharged with the four "5"s, which type we illustrate below, and have received three new values of the new series, which we illustrated in the March number of the JOURNAL.

Adhesive stamps. Watermarked S. Perforated 14½.

Surcharged in blue

5 5

5e on 12c slate (No. 288) pair, one without surcharge at bottom.
5e on 12c slate (No. 288) lower left "5" omitted.

5c on 12c slate (No. 288) upper "5"s double, in both blue and

Black surcharge.

5c on 12c slate (No. 288)

Regular series Perforated 11½. 10c violet and black 12c violet and black 13c brown and black **SOUTHERN NIGERIA.** — Ewen's Weekly Stamp News adds another value to the current set on chalky paper.

Adhesive stamp.

Chalk-surfaced paper.
Watermarked Multiple Crown
and C. A.

Perforated 14. 2sh 6p brown and black

TUNIS.—Several of our contemporaries note a series of postal packet stamps which have just appeared here. They are upright rectangles in shape and the design, which is the same for all values, represents the arrival of a mailcarrier in an Arabian village, They are inscribed: "TUNISIE" above and "COLIS POSTAUX" below. In the upper right corner is: "RF" and the value, in figures, is in a tablet just above the right end of the lower label.

Perforated 13½x14.
5c green and brown-violet
10c vermilion and rose
20c brown and vermilion
25c blue and brown
40c gray and rose
50c brown-violet and violet
75c brown and blue

Postal Packet stamps.

2fr carmine and blue 5fr violet and brown-violet

1fr brown-red and red

Review.

FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY.*

We have received a copy of this work which is plainly marked "For Review" though why it should be so marked is beyond our comprehension.

It is simply what its full title says that it is, i.e. The History of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., which includes rather full biographies of all its officers and most of its employees and, as about every other page contains an advertisement of the house in question, it resolves itself into a nicely gotten up advertising pamphlet of 212 pages.

Considered purely as an advertisement it will undoubtly fulfill its end, though we are hardly prepared to believe that it will prove of any

material interest to the collecting public.

On this side of the water, at least, we are not accustomed to such a constantly recurring repetition of the personal pronoun, first person, singular, as is to be found in the pages of the work under consideration; it strikes us as a little too much, even, of a good thing; indeed, we should have preferred to use the editorial "we" in such a case.—G.L.T.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

May 3rd.—Display—West Indies—Sir W. B. Avery. Bart.

Mr. E. Christofides was elected a member. Mrs. Briddon, Messrs. F. C. Henderson, H. L. Hayman and W. B. Mapplebeck were thanked for donations to the Collection.

Sir W. B. Avery then gave his display of the stamps of "West Indies." Even after all that has been said and written about this collection it was a matter of astonishment to those members who had not previously seen it. To those who had seen it even more than once, it was quite as wonderful for they appreciate more year by year the difficulty of getting together complete mint sheets of shades of the early issues, reconstructed sheets in such superb condition as here shown and in completing, even to the very rarest type of surcharge, shade or other minor variety, in both mint condition and also finely used. The interest in the display and the benefits derived from it were greatly increased by the really wonderful grasp of the whole subject possessed by Sir

^{*}Fifty Years—of—Philately—The History of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.—To which is added a chapter on—Stamp Collecting as in investment—By—Charles J. Phillips—London—Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, W. C.—New York—Stanley Gibbons, Inc., 198 Broadway.

William and the cordial way in which he explained all the details. If any choice can be made perhaps the Nevis, St. Vincent and Barbados were the finest, especially the first, which is the best collection in existence. A hearty vote of thanks was given to Sir William to which he responded in his usual happy, whole hearted fashion.

The Denver Stamp Club.

Chas. A. Nast, President. O. T. Hartman, Vice-President. H. A. Davis, Secretary.

Meetings First Wednesday of each month, 8 o'clock.

The sixth monthly meeting of the Denver Stamp Club was called to order at 8 o'clock, May 2, with fifteen members and two visitors present. President Nast in the chair.

Minutes of previous meeting were approved as read. Two applications for membership were presented and referred to the Board of Trustees.

The Secretary presented his first semi-annual report, as follows:

SECRETARY'S FIRST SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Officers and Members of the Denver Stamp Club:

We have not been organized six months, and have a membership of 34 active stamp collectors. During this period from time to time names of prospective members have been handed me to the number of twenty. Out of these twenty stamp collectors, ten of them have been elected to membership. To do this there have been 252 personal letters written, and about twenty personal calls made with this object in view. 200 postals have been mailed calling attention to the benefits of our club, this number exclusive of notices of meetings.

I have three applications for membership in my hand, which makes a prospective membership of 37, nearly forty members, these, with the exception of three or four, all city members. We have only one member outside the State of Colorado. I am sure we would all like to hear from our President at the next meeting as to "What has the Denver Stamp Club accomplished."

Following is financial report:

	\$28.08		\$28.08
Dues from two members	1.00		
Dues from three members	1.50		
Commission on Auction sale	1.68		
Dues from three members	1.50		
Dues from seven members	3.50		
Commission on re-sale	.05		
donated by F. W. Reid	9.35		
Receipts from Auction lots			
Dues from thirteen members	6.50		
Dues from six members	\$3.00	Passed to Treasurer	\$28.08
RECEIPTS.		DISBURSEMENT.	

The following report was also received:

REPORT OF EXCHANGE MANAGER.

DENVER, COLO., MAY 2, 1906

To the Officers and Members of the Denver Stamp Club:

The Exchange Department has received 28 books value \$125.36.

Insurance on this books \$1.27 of which 80cents has been collected. Sales to date have been \$20.62.

Returned two books with cash sales of \$1.64 from value of \$2.20, which is about 70 per cent. The exchange is getting in working order and is being patronized liberally. 1 would like to receive more exchange books from members.

OSCAR T. HARTMAN, Exc. Mgr.

On account of only one entry being made, the Geographical Contest was postponed, to be taken up at the next regular meeting.

The meeting was then given over to display. Moritz Stockder showed a fine collection of Mexican Revenues which was notable for its fine arrangement and fine specimens.

Meeting adjourned 10.30.

H. A. DAVIS, Sec'y.

Philadelphia Philatelic Society.

Meetings held at 8 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Pennsylvania Museum, Broad and Pine Streets.

Joseph Alinson Steinmetz, President, J. W. Hazeltine, Vice-President, Percival Parrish, Secretary, Charles Beamish, Treasurer.

The regular meeting of the Philadelphia Philatelic Society was called to order at 8.30 p.m., May 3d, 1906. by Vice-President Hazeltin). Ten members present, and as visitor Mr. A. W. Batchelder, of Boston. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer reported a balance of \$23.38 on hand. The by-laws were amended making the quorum five instead of seven, 30 days notice of intention to vote upon the amendment having been given.

A discussion followed as to the best method of arousing interest in the future meetings. A number of excellent suggestions were made by the members. Mr. Repplier proposed holding a public exibition under the joint auspices of the Society and one or more of the daily large newspapers. Mr. Batchelder also made some interesting remarks upon this subject and outlined the very successful work of the entertainment committee of the Boston Philatelic Society.

It was the sense of the meeting that the proposed exhibition be deferred until fall. Plans were completed to make the June meeting

of special interest.

The usual drawing by lot for a rare stamp was held and Mr. Paul D. Baugh was the winner.

The meeting than adjourned and a small auction sale was held.

PERCIVAL PARRISH,
Secretary.



